locality, whose houses had not much of backyards, used the sides of the tank and rendered the tank and its vicinity insanitary. The Member suggested that, if the Government would help the Committee with loans for acquiring the tank and the lands close to it, the Committee would repay the money by the sale of the land in small bits as building-sites.

The next point in the Member's representation related to the water-supply of the town. He said that the water in the two rivers running by the town was unfit for drinking and culinary purposes. There were only a few wells and even those would have no water during the hot season, if there was no water in the adjoining tanks. He suggested that the Shencottah tank situated near the town be deepened and repaired and its area extended by the acquisition of some of the adjoining lands.

The Member then referred to the insanitary condition of many of the roads and lanes and said that already some roads were maintained by the P. W. D. He suggested that the remaining roads and lanes should also be transferred to the P. W. D.

Lastly, the Member dwelt upon the necessity for an early re-survey of the town with a view to remove the confusion and uncertainty existing in regard to many lanes and yards attached to houses and to ascertain the extent of the *porambokes*. He suggested that a survey staff be deputed to do the work under the control of the local Tahsildar, who was the *ex-officio* President of the Committee.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

99. Some needs of the town of Kayankulam.

Rev. Fr. A. J. Michael (Member, T. I. C., Kayankulam) referred to the following needs of the town of Kayankulam and prayed that the needful be done by the Government :—

(1) The standard of the Lower Grade Secondary School at Kayankulam should be raised to the Higher Grade.

There were 49 students in the III Form. The proposed Higher Grade School would benefit the Karthigappalli and Karunagappalli taluks and also the people living near the beach. The necessity for such a school was recognised by Dr. Bishop and Mr. Pryde.

(2) The Munsiff's Court at Krishnapuram should be transferred to Kayankulam.

(3) The Kayankulam Dispensary should be converted into a District Hospital.

(4) A boat-basin should be provided at Kayankulam.

(5) Gutters should be constructed on either side of the Kayankulam market road.

(6) The portion of the Kayankulam-Haripad road, extending from Kayankulam to Nangiarkulangara, should be metalled and made cartable.

(7) Public latrines and urinals should be constructed in the town. Their maintenance would be attended to by the T. I. C.

Dewan's reply.—As regards the Munsiff's Court, it is a settled question and cannot be re-opened. The other representations of the Member will be referred to the Heads of Departments concerned for report.

100. Desirability of recording the minutes of the meetings of Town Improvement Committees in Malayalam as well as in English.

Mr. A. Viramani Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Mavelikara) said that, in the 19 Town Improvement Committees in the State, there were several members who did not know the English language and that there was no provision either in the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation or in the proposed Municipal Bill, making it obligatory to record the minutes of meetings of the Committee only in English. A resolution was passed some time ago by the Mavelikara Committee that the minutes of the Committee's meetings should be recorded in Malayalam for the benefit of all the members. But when the question was submitted to the Government, the latter in their orders Nos. 7888 and 9811, dated the 22nd December 1915

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and 4th May 1916 respectively, decided that the minutes and other proceedings should be recorded in English only. The members, who were not acquainted with the English language, were much discouraged by the above decision. They did not know in detail the proceedings of the Committee. It was desirable that the discussions in the Committee should also take place in Malayalam. According to section 25 of the Municipal Bill, the public had access to the meetings of the Committee. Unless the minutes and proceedings of the Committee were recorded in the Vernacular language also, the benefit of proviso 4 to the above section would not be enjoyed by the people. For the reasons stated above, the Member prayed that the minutes of the T. I. C., be ordered to be recorded in Malayalam also.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

101. Appointment of non-official Presidents for Town Improvement Committees.

Mr. A. Viramani Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Mavelikara) said that, of the 19 Town Improvement Committees in the State, 18 were presided over by Government officials. When the permanent President went on leave, his successor in office generally took that place. Being a new man he was not able to understand the situation thoroughly and consequently the work of the Committee suffered. The official Presidents were not able to spare much time for the work connected with the Committee. Oftentimes they found it difficult even to attend the meetings of the Committee owing to heavy pressure of work in other directions. On the other hand, a non-official President would be able to devote a good portion of his time in going about the town and ascertaining its requirements. The desirability of appointing non-official Presidents had been urged upon the attention of the Government from the eleventh session of the Assembly. The Government themselves admitted that the working of the Alleppey Committee under its non-official President was very satisfactory. The proposal would not entail any additional expenditure to the Government. It would, moreover, bring in greater advantages to the people. The Member, therefore, suggested that the Presidents of all the Town Improvement Committees be elected from non-official Members of the Committees and that, when the President was absent or went on leave, another non-official Member be asked to attend to the duties of the President.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

102. Desirability of granting permission to the Town Improvement Committee, Alleppey, to levy a small toll on all vessels entering the water-ways within the limits of the Town.

Mr. N. T. Isaac (Member, T. I. C., Alleppey) said that Alleppey, being a commercial centre, attracted many people to it from outside. The town of Alleppey might be deemed the central town of Travancore. The steam boats from Quilon, Kottayam, Changanacherry, Chengannur and other places stopped at Alleppey. Those who wanted to go to Trivandrum, Cochin, Ernakulam, Madras and other places also halted at Alleppey for a day or two on their way. They availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the town for short halts. It was, therefore, equitable to realise a small amount from such persons in the shape of a toll. The Government were spending enormous sums for building bridges, improving canals, etc., within the town. There were several other matters also to be attended to with a view to improve the sanitation of the town and the Government might not be in a position to undertake all such works. Under the circumstances, the Member prayed that the Committee be empowered to levy a small fee from all persons who touched Alleppey on their way to other places. He understood that the Madras Government had either sanctioned or had under contemplation the recovery of a fee from all railway passengers, for the benefit of the Municipality.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

103. Condition of the town of Kottayam.

Mr. K. M. Mathula Mappila (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) said that the town of Kottayam was fast rising in importance and that the Government had not done anything in recent years for the town, except perhaps the establishment of a

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